Will Hartnett

Biography

Rep. Will Hartnett, 55, was first elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1990. Now serving in his eleventh term of office, Rep. Hartnett represents North Dallas, including Preston Hollow, Lake Highlands, and Bluffview. Rep. Hartnett serves as Vice-Chairman of the House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee and on the Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence Committee. Rep. Hartnett previously served for six years as Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee and for eight years as Vice-Chairman of the Judicial Affairs Committee. He has also served as a member of the important Appropriations, Ways and Means, and Transportation Committees. Before his election to the legislature, Rep. Hartnett served for three years as Gov. Clements' appointee on the Board of the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation, the state agency which administers Texas' multi-billion dollar student loan program.

During his legislative career, Rep. Hartnett has received numerous awards, including: Ten Best Legislators Award (Texas Monthly calling him the epitome of fairness); the 2011 Guardian of Small Business Award (NFIB); 2009 Fighter for Free Enterprise Award (Texas Assn. of Business); 2009 Champion for Texas Families Award (Texas Family Law Foundation); 2008 Texas Technology Champion Award (American Electronics Assn.); 2007 Honor Star Award (Texas Guardianship Assn.); and 2005 Bucky Award (Texas Monthly - honoring the lawmaker whose single act made the biggest contribution to the session). During each of the last five sessions of the Legislature, he has authored and passed more legislation than any other member of the Dallas County House Delegation. Rep. Hartnett has been the lead House sponsor of 159 pieces of legislation, and a co-sponsor of dozens of other enacted bills.

Rep. Hartnett is a partner in The Hartnett Law Firm, which has six lawyers, including his father, three brothers, and a sister. The firm specializes in estate and trust administration and litigation. He is board certified in Estate Planning and Probate Law, and is a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and of the Texas Bar Foundation. He is listed in the 2011 edition of The Best Lawyers in America.

Rep. Hartnett, a native Texan and member of a large Dallas family, graduated cum laude from Harvard University and received his JD from the University of Texas. He and his wife, Tammy, have three sons, ages 12, 9, and 6. Rep. Hartnett always welcomes parenting advice.

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